

February 18, 1939

Mr. Irvin Stewart
41 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Stewart:

Perhaps your committee has some understanding regarding the joining of such organizations as the National Association of Educational Broadcasters. However, I can see no reason from our angle why your committee could not become an associate member of NAEB.

Within a few days, I shall send you a copy of our constitution. In the meantime, I shall send you copies of the NAEB "News Letters" from the first of this year on. Somehow, I am sure, we can arrange to send you copies in the future.

Cordially yours,

Frank E. Schooley

fes/rc

COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AIDS TO LEARNING

A COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

41 EAST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y.

James B. Conant, *Chairman*

Vannevar Bush

L. D. Coffin

Ross G. Harrison

Frank B. Jewett

Bethuel M. Webster

Ben D. Wood

Telephone: Murray Hill 2-8352

Irvin Stewart, *Director*

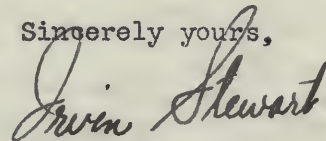
February 8, 1939

Executive Secretary
National Association of Educational
Broadcasters
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Sir:

I have seen copies of the NAEB News Letter. Because the subject of educational broadcasting is one in which this Committee is very much interested, I should like to know whether there is any way in which I could arrange to be placed on the mailing list for this publication.

Sincerely yours,



Irvin Stewart,
Director

IS/gq

March 6, 1939

Mr. Irvin Stewart
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
41 East 42nd Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Stewart:

The National Association of Educational Broadcasters cordially invites you to associate with it as an associate member.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Association revised constitution which will give you information regarding the organization.

May I explain that NAEB sends to its members a News Letter containing collected and selected information on educational activities in general, in particular about NAEB members, and occasional special articles by competent authorities. The News Letters are mailed members twice monthly except June, July, and August, when publication is monthly.

Collected educational radio information is also exchanged by members and distributed monthly.

Annual dues for your institution, as provided in the constitution, would be \$5 for annual associate membership.

I shall be glad to send you further data, or would be most happy to receive your 1939 dues.

Cordially yours,

Frank E. Schooley

March 8, 1939

Mr. Irvin Stewart
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
41 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Stewart:

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of the recording test rules and regulations which we are using to govern the study of sound recording equipment.

I know of no one to suggest as a possibility for conducting your tests except the Chief Engineer of the University of Illinois Radio Station, Mr. A. James Ebel. My own knowledge is non-technical but judging from the tests made for us by Mr. Ebel on recording equipment and by the comments made by recording engineers who have been here with equipment, I feel sure he is purely scientific in his methods. In fact, it was our desire to have scientific data on recording equipment for our own station that has led to the NAEB tests.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Schooley

FES:EH
Enc.

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Irvin Stewart, *Director*

January 28, 1939

Mr. Frank Schooley
Radio Station WILL
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

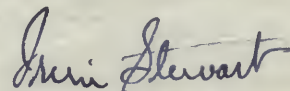
Since my letter to you of October 14, 1938, inquiring as to your report on recording equipment, this Committee has decided to issue a report on sound recording equipment for schools. Our interest is not in recording equipment for broadcast stations but in equipment for use in classrooms. We expect the report to consider the advantages and disadvantages of film, magnetic tape and disc recording systems and, with respect to disc, to contain definite information designed to assist schools in selecting equipment suited to their needs.

I shall appreciate it if you will let me know to what extent your report on sound recording equipment will cover this field, as we have no desire to duplicate anything you are doing.

I should also like to get your suggestions as to individuals whom you consider as competent to prepare such a report. Obviously, the reporter must not only be technically competent, but he must have no connection or bias which would tend to invalidate his conclusions.

Perhaps I should add that this Committee is entirely supported by Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Sincerely yours,



Irvin Stewart,
Director

IS/gq

XYI
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Irvin Stewart, *Director*

March 10, 1939

Mr. Frank E. Schooley
Station WILL
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

Thanks for your letter of March 8 and its enclosed copy of the instantaneous recording machine tests. I appreciate your suggesting Mr. Ebel's name as one competent to make tests of recording equipment.

When we have reached a decision as to a reporter on the subject I shall let you know, for I think it would be an excellent idea if anything we did on sound recording apparatus might be coordinated with what you are doing for the NAEB.

Sincerely yours,

Irvin Stewart

Irvin Stewart,
Director

IS/gq

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Irvin Stewart, *Director*


May 5, 1939

Mr. Frank E. Schooley
Radio Station WILL
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

Please pardon this delayed expression
of my thanks for your letter of April 25 commenting upon
the specification for a school broadcast receiver. I
am relaying your comments to Mr. Hogan who will take them
into account in the revision of the specification.

Sincerely yours,


Irvin Stewart,
Director

IS/gq

October 2, 1939

Dr. Irvin Stewart, Director
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning,
41 East 42nd Street,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Stewart:

In response to your letter of September 25 regarding "Central Sound Systems for Schools", I am sending you some comments, mainly those of Mr. A. James Ebel, Chief Engineer of WILL.

On page 11 Ebel raises the question regarding the use of symbols. He says that those used in your copy are not generally accepted as standard and the paper might be polished a bit by using standard symbols.

On page 13, third paragraph, a suggestion is made that quality should be arbitrarily restricted. This has been a long established "gripe" of the WILL staff. Why try to perfect mechanical systems and then provide manual controls to give inferior quality. It is the time worn conflict between high fidelity and tone control. Radio manufacturers capitalize on these two qualities in the same receiving set and yet they are diametrically opposed.

On page 14, 2a, a reference is made to 70db. In this particular case, the reference is to acoustical db. Throughout the distinction should be made between the acoustical and electrical db.

On page 17 the sentence referring to frequency range of commercial records we believe to be a bit off color. Ebel is of the opinion that the cycle should be 7500 rather than 5,000. In our own case we can prove it to be true. Regarding the sentence - lines 26 to 28, we again raise the question of why include such a statement.

Page 20 - perhaps the text could be improved by referring specifically to curves which later clarify the text.

Dr. Irvin Stewart

-2-

10/2/39

Page 26, paragraph 3 - the reference is made to a "cardioid" type of microphone. This happens to be a trade name of Western Electric and the text would be just as good if the word "uni-directional" were used instead.

While we have offered some critical comments, the paper in general is very good. The comments have been only given in the spirit of helpfulness.

Cordially,

Frank E. Schooley

FES:JH

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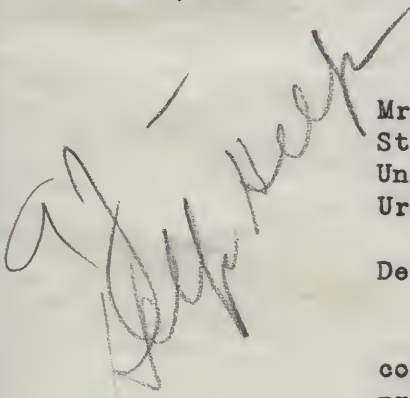
Bethuel M. Webster

Ben D. Wood

Irvin Stewart, *Director*

Telephone: Murray Hill 2-8352

September 25, 1939

Mr. Frank E. Schooley
Station W.I.L.L.
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

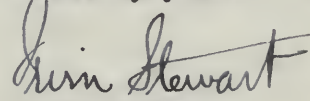
Dear Mr. Schooley:

There is enclosed in preliminary form a copy of a report on "Central Sound Systems for Schools" prepared for this Committee by Professor William M. Hall of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In order that the report when printed will be most useful to school administrators, I shall appreciate your comments as to any respects in which the report should be altered before publication.

To be most useful, your comments should reach me by October 16, 1939.

Sincerely yours,


Irvin Stewart,
Director

IS/gq

October 3, 1939

Dr. Irvin Stewart, Director
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
41 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Doctor Stewart:

Under separate cover I am shipping you ten more copies of the report on the recording machine tests. I am also enclosing a bill for the ten copies.

The only provision we have made for further distribution is to make copies available to those persons requesting them and contributing 50%. When we run out of our present supply we will have to re-duplicate. NAEB has no funds available for an elaborate publication.

Cordially,

Frank E. Schooley

FES:JH
enc.

COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AIDS TO LEARNING

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Irvin Stewart, *Director*

September 18, 1939

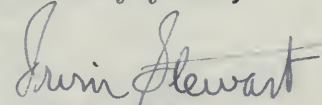
Mr. Frank Schooley
Radio Station WILL
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

Congratulations upon your report "Data on Instantaneous Recording Machines". That report should be of great assistance to schools contemplating the purchase of recording equipment. What provision have you made for further publication and distribution of the report, including calling it to the attention of administrative authorities in the various public school systems?

I should like to obtain ten additional copies of the report. Please have the bill for the ten copies sent to me, so that I may certify it to Washington for payment.

Sincerely yours,



Irvin Stewart
Director

IS/gq

✓ October 7, 1939

Dr. Irvin Stewart, Director
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
41 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Doctor Stewart:

In reply to your letter of October 5,
I am writing to say that the quoted statement from
the Federal Recorder Company is correct. In the
quotation a reference is made to Page 34, which
I presume refers to some other report - not NAEB.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Schooley

FES:JH

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Irvin Stewart, *Director*

Telephone: Murray Hill 2-8352

October 5, 1939

245
Mr. Frank E. Schooley
Radio Station WILL
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

Please accept my thanks for your letter of October 2 with its comments on the report on "Central Sound Systems for Schools". Your comments were exactly of the specific type which are most helpful.

In a letter which I received today from the Federal Recorder Company, there is the following paragraph:

af?
"As I mentioned over the telephone, we found ourselves unable to establish connections with the N.A.E.B., in order to have tests made of our equipment. At the time tests were being conducted, we were unfortunately in the process of changing models, and at the same time, we were changing the location of our manufacturing plant. For that reason, you will find that on Page 34, our models are now listed with incorrect prices and model names."

I shall appreciate it if you will let me know whether that is a correct statement of the situation with respect to the Federal Recorder.

Sincerely yours,

Irvin Stewart
Irvin Stewart,
Director

IS/gq

Current
apparently to
some other
report, not
N.A.E.B.

January
Thirteenth
1940

Dr. Irvin Stewart, Director
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
41 East Forty-second Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Stewart:

Some time ago Mr. A. James Ebel, the chief engineer of W I L L, reviewed your publication "Broadcast Receivers and Phonographs for Classroom Use". After reading your bulletin, he handed me a note regarding it and also a comment on the possibility of its use by the teaching profession. For some time I have had this note on my desk, wondering what to do with it, but at the same time I felt that it should not be tossed in the waste basket, so I am taking the liberty of sending it to you. The note reads as follows:

"I think that this report, along with the standard reports which you have, comprise a store of information which is invaluable to the teaching profession. The reports throughout show careful preparation with special attention to technical accuracy without sacrificing simplicity and clarity.

I still feel, however, that much of this work will be wasted effort until teachers are taught to realize the value of such information and not to shy away from it because it has a tinge of technicality. As an example, when I explained the operation of the new receiver-phono setup at Uni High to all the teachers, only one or two even attempted to follow the discussion. The general attitude was, 'Why should I know anything more than how to turn it on?' I believe that a survey study of electronic devices as applied to the teaching profession should be required of all prospective teachers.

A.J.E."

I wonder if this is a general condition, and if so, what is anything can be done about it?

Cordially yours,

Frank E. Schooley

FES/rep

W

November 7, 1939

Dr. Irvin Stewart, Director
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
New York City

Dear Doctor Stewart:

This is with regard to the Confidential preliminary report
on SOUND RECORDING EQUIPMENT FOR SCHOOLS, Copy No. 17.

As in the case of other technical reports, I have asked our
chief engineer to study the report. Comments are those of
Mr. A. James Ebel, Chief Engineer, WILL.

On the whole Mr. Ebel believes the authors did a good job
of surveying the field of sound recording. He thinks, however,
there should be a follow-up report such as the one prepared
on receivers by Mr. John V. L. Hogan, which would give definite
standards or specifications for recording equipment to be used
in the schools. A report of what a good recording machine
SHOULD DO is desirable, more so than what present models actually
do.

Page 1 - INTRODUCTION - Mr. Ebel believes that the section on
THE NOVELTY OF ONE'S OWN VOICE belongs in an appendix and not
in the main text.

Page 3 - line 21 - suggestion that word, "true" be inserted, to
read: "A true recording provides each member etc."

Page 10 - lines 27 and 28. Ebel believes (and I concur) that
recording is not a matter of luck. Furthermore on tests which
we have run we have found that we can record more frequencies
that the pick-ups head will reproduce. Therefore, the statement
"as much of" is an under-statement.

Page 15 - lines 18-26 - very good.

Page 16 - line 2 refers to head which will cut aluminum or
acetate. We feel that this is not a necessary requisite of a
good cutting head.

Page 16 - line 11 - insert "highest quality" so as to read:
"conventional for highest quality magnetic etc."

Page 17 - line 7 - comment which follows "age" is that this effect is not so pronounced with sapphire cutting style.

Pages 18 and 19 - Comment on section of LOUDSPEAKER is "good."

Page 21 - line 1 - Ebel's comment: "Directional models work better in untreated rooms. See Olson and Massa, Applied Acoustics, pp 139.

Page 28 - section of LOW PRICE GROUP - Ebel's comment: "AMEN."

Page 40 - comment on RCA section: angle adjustment very inconvenient. i.e., of cutting head.

Page 44 - lines 23-25. This is true only of network programs. All new transmitting systems go up to 10,000 cps.

Page 48 - Introduce the new unit v.u. It will be used in the future.

Page 50 - lines 4 and 5 - directional microphones will help.

- lines 14-26. By the same token an orchestral recording is generally played too softly. It should also be at the same level as the original which is more than most speakers will handle.

Cordially yours,

Frank E. Schooley

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Telephone: Murray Hill 2-8352

Irvin Stewart, *Director*

November 14, 1939

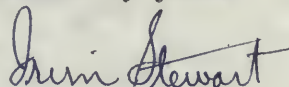
Mr. Frank E. Schooley
Station WILL
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

Please accept my thanks for your letter of November 7 commenting on the report on "Sound Recording Equipment for Schools".

I am relaying your comments to Professor Van Dyke in order that he may have them before him as he revises the report for publication.

Sincerely yours



Irvin Stewart
Director

IS/ig

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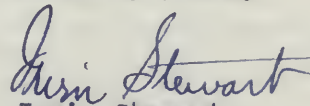
January 16, 1940

Mr. Frank E. Schooley
Radio Station WILL
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

I suspect that Mr. Ebel's comment about the general attitude of teachers toward electronic devices is only too well justified, and I must admit I do not know what can be done about it. Perhaps something eventually will be done at teacher training institutions, but that will have to await an awakening by those institutions to the possibilities of auditory and visual aids. Meantime, we can only hope that while a large part of the seed will be thrown upon barren ground enough of it will land in fertile soil to justify the sowers' efforts.

Sincerely yours,


Irvin Stewart,
Director

IS/gg

February
Twelfth
1940

Dr. Irvin I. Stewart, Director
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
41 East Forty-Second Street
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Stewart:

Last year you asked me to add your name to the NAEB mailing list and you paid \$5.00 for the year to receive the NAEB News Letters and packet material. I do not know whether or not you wish to continue this service, but in case you do, I am enclosing triplicate copies of the bill for 1940.

Cordially yours,

Frank E. Schooley

FES/rep

Enclosures

April
Twelfth
1940

Miss Grace A. Irwin
Secretary to the Director of the
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
41 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Miss Irwin:

Thank you for your note of April 9 regarding the two copies of NAEB reports which you have been receiving. If the second copy is of any value to you we shall be glad to continue sending it without any additional cost. However, if one copy is sufficient, we shall mail you in the future only one copy.

Very truly yours,

Frank E. Schooley

FES/rep

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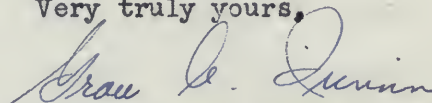
April 9, 1940

Mr. Frank E. Schooley
Radio Station WILL
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

We are receiving two copies of the
NAEB reports enclosed in the same envelope. I am
wondering if by any chance we are listed as having
subscribed for two sets of these reports.

Very truly yours,



Secretary to Dr. Stewart

J u n e
Twenty-ninth
1 9 4 0

Dr. Irvin I. Stewart, Director
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
41 East Forty-second street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Stewart:

You may recall that at Columbus you asked me about the stability of the motor used by Universal on a 16-inch portable. Table 1 in the "Data on Instantaneous Recording Machines" shows that the stability was .08 per cent of those machines tested. This particular machine showed the best results. However, this good record may have been a result of the motor or of the drive system or a combination of both.

Cordially yours,

Frank E. Schooley
Program Director

FES/rep

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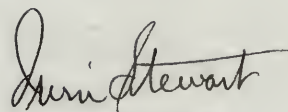
July 6, 1940

Mr. Frank E. Schooley
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Schooley:

Thanks for your note of June 29th.
I have tried to obtain more information on this motor
from the Universal Microphone Company. They are so cagy
in their replies that I suspect they do not believe that
most of their motors would be as good as the one in the
recorder which you tested.

Very truly yours,



Irvin Stewart
Director.

IS/mg

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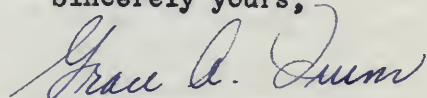
August 21, 1940

Mr. Frank E. Schooley
University of Illinois
Radio Station WILL
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

This will acknowledge with appreciation your letter to Dr. Stewart of August 16 inviting him to attend the 1940 Annual Convention of the NAEB to be held September 6 and 7 in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Stewart is spending practically all of his time in Washington as Secretary of the National Defense Research Committee and will not be able to take advantage of your invitation, as much as he would like to do so.

Sincerely yours,



Secretary to Dr. Stewart

A u g u s t
S i x t e e n t h
1 9 4 0

Dr. Irvin Stewart, Director
Committee on Scientific Aids to Learning
41 East 42nd Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Stewart:

If you happen to be in the Mid-West about
the time of our meeting you will be cordially
welcomed at the Friday's convention program.

Cordially yours,

Frank E. Schooley

FES/rep

COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AIDS TO LEARNING

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Telephone: Murray Hill 2-8352

March 10, 1941

Mr. Frank E. Schooley
Radio Station WILL
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Mr. Schooley:

This will acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 7 relating to an educational transcription service and exchange. Doubtless you are familiar with the mimeographed publication of the Association of School Film Libraries, 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City, entitled "Educational Recordings for Classroom Use". It is the best source list for educational transcriptions that I know.

The only thing which we have done in the field of educational transcriptions was to stimulate the interest of the Office of Education in the subject and to make the grant which initiated the "Americans All" series of transcriptions. The grant was to start a revolving fund, and I understand that actually the revenue from the "Americans All" transcriptions has been used to make a couple of other transcriptions.

We have been responsible for a number of especially made phonograph records including the forty science records and the six art appreciation records, reports concerning the use of which were sent to you some months ago. The New York State Education Department has made a series of approximately forty records for rural schools in New York State, with which it is now experimenting. A group of Georgia educators are now working on a series of records for Georgia schools. None of these activities, however, have any relation to a transcription service and exchange.

We do not have presently in mind any further activities with respect to an educational transcription service and exchange. If some one should mature a well thought up proposal in that area, we should be glad to consider whether or not it should be given limited financial support by the Committee. Fundamentally, however, our funds were intended

Mr. Frank E. Schooley - 2

March 10, 1941

to be used for pioneering activities and I do not think that a suggestion which involved merely an appropriation of funds for the transcription of additional broadcast programs would meet with much favor.

// We are very much interested in the entire field and would like to be kept informed as to anything which you might propose in the field. //

Sincerely yours,

Irvin Stewart

Irvin Stewart,
Director

~~IS/gg~~

* On the chance that you did not receive the reports, I am sending you under separate cover a copy of the preliminary print of the "Use of Photograph Records as an Aid to the Teaching of Science".

I. S.

MARCH 7, 1941.

DR. IRVIN STEWART
DIRECTOR
COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AIDS TO LEARNING
41 EAST 42ND. STREET
NEW YORK CITY

DEAR DR. STEWART:

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTERS IS INTENSELY INTERESTED IN AN EDUCATIONAL TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE AND EXCHANGE. WE KNOW SOMETHING OF WHAT THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF EDUCATION IS DOING AND WHAT NBC IS PLANNING TO DO. IT IS OUR FEELING, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN MORE COULD BE DONE TO ASSIST EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTING IN THIS RESPECT. HAS YOUR COMMITTEE DONE ANYTHING RELATIVE TO THIS PARTICULAR PROBLEM? IF NOT, WOULD IT BE WILLING TO UNDERTAKE SOME SUCH PROJECT?

CORDIALLY YOURS,

FRANK E. SCHOOLEY

FES:RMW

APRIL 7, 1941.

DR. IRVIN STEWART
DIRECTOR
COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AIDS TO LEARNING
41 EAST 42D STREET
NEW YORK CITY

DEAR DR. STEWART:

THIS IS TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR RECENT LETTER
RELATING TO AN EDUCATIONAL TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE
AND EXCHANGE. I DON'T KNOW THAT ANYTHING ORIGINAL
WILL COME FROM THE MATTER OR NOT. I HAVE PASSED YOUR
COMMENTS ALONG TO OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

CORDIALLY YOURS,

FRANK E. SCHOOLEY

FES:RMW

APRIL 24, 1942

DR. IRVIN STEWART
COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AIDS
TO LEARNING
41 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

DEAR DR. STEWART:

IN CHECKING OVER OUR ACCOUNTS FOR 1942 I NOTE THAT
I FAILED TO SEND YOU A STATEMENT FOR THE NAEB NEWS
LETTER SUBSCRIPTION FOR 1942. ASSUMING THAT YOU
STILL WISH TO RECEIVE THE LETTER, I AM ENCLOSING
TRIPPLICATE COPIES OF OUR STATEMENT FOR 1942. I HOPE
TO SEE YOU IN COLUMBUS.

CORDIALLY YOURS

FRANK E. SCHOOLEY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FES:SL

COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AIDS TO LEARNING

A COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

41 EAST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y.

James B. Conant, *Chairman*

Vannevar Bush

Ross G. Harrison

Frank B. Jewett

Bethuel M. Webster

Ben D. Wood

Irvin Stewart, *Director*

Telephone: Murray Hill 2-8352

October 26, 1939

Mr. Frank E. Schooley
Station WILL
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

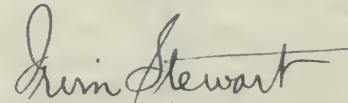
Dear Mr. Schooley:

There is enclosed a confidential preliminary copy of a report prepared for this Committee by Professor K. S. Van Dyke and Mr. R. L. Brown on "Sound Recording Equipment for Schools". This report will probably be printed by the Committee for distribution to school teachers and administrators.

In order that the report might have the greatest possible usefulness, I should like to get your comments on any changes which should be made in it before publication. To be most useful, your comments should reach me not later than Thursday, November 10, 1939.

On the cover page of the enclosure, there is a restriction on the use of the report which I am sure you will observe.

Sincerely yours,



Irvin Stewart,
Director

Enc.
IS:ow

(nd)

Frank.

I have checked this report and put my comments in the margin. On the whole I think the authors did a good job of surveying the field of sound recording. I think, however, there should be a follow up report such as the one prepared on receivers by John V.L. Hogan which would give definite standards or specifications for recording equipment to be used in the schools. A report telling what a good recording machine should do and ~~not~~ what present model ^{do do} is what I refer too.

I should like a copy of these reports if they will be available.

A. J. E.

Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records
at the Wisconsin Historical Society as part of
"Unlocking the Airwaves: Revitalizing an Early Public and Educational Radio Collection."



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